

Message Text

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44

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /056 W

----- 049095

R 190735Z AUG 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

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FOR OES/APT/SA

DEPT PASS TO NASA HQ, CODE I

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, JA

SUBJ: GOJ SPACE ACTIVITIES

REFS: A) TOKYO 12339, B) TOKYO 12426

1. MIURA AND AKAGI, NEW STA OFFICERS ON GOJ SPACE PROGRAM, PAID CALL ON EMBASSY TO REPORT ON STATUS OF UG/GOJ NEGOTIATIONS ON ADVANCED N-1 ROCKET ASSISTANCE AND ON REUSE OF KWAJALEIN AS SITE OF DOWNRANGE TRACKING STATION.

2. RE N-1, FOREIGN OFFICE HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESPONDING TO USG REQUIREMENT FOR ASSURANCES STATEMENT. MOFA APPARENTLY HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO ISSUANCE OF STATEMENT AND IS INCLINED TOWARD SINGLE STATEMENT RATHER THAN ON ISSUED CASE-BY-CASE. FORMAT OF MOFA STATEMENT NOT YET DECIDED, BUT IT MAY BE IN FORM OF REPLY TO USG AIDE MEMOIRE. STA IS PUSHING FOR MOFA TO RESPOND BY END OF SEPTEMBER.

3. MIURA CONFIRMED EARLIER PREDICTION FROM NASDA (REFTEL A) BY SAYING THAT GOJ WILL BE REQUESTING PERMISSION FROM USG TO RETURN DOWNRANGE TRACKING STATION TO KWAJALEIN FOR USE IN 2/78 LAUNCH OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ISS-2. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF EXISTING KWAJALEIN AGREEMENT WILL BE MADE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, MIURA STATED THAT NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

ON "JAPANESE SPACELAB" (REFTEL B) WERE PREMATURE. HE NOTED THAT SOME STA THINKING WAS TAKING PLACE IN THIS DIRECTION, AND THAT HE WOULD FURNISH EMBASSY WITH MORE DETAIL WHEN AVAILABLE. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT STA AND NASDA WERE EXPECTING VISIT FROM ONE OR MORE NASA OFFICIALS WITHIN A MONTH OR SO; PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO EXPLAIN TO JAPANESE LATEST INFO ON USE OF NASA SHUTTLE.

5. COMMENT: RE PARA 2 ABOVE, TWO INDEPENDENT BUT INFORMAL SOURCES HAD RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF THAT MOFA WAS MUCH FURTHER ALONG IN ITS WORK ON ASSURANCES STATEMENT THAN INDICATED BY MIURA, AND THAT COMMUNICATION TO WASHINGTON WOULD BE GOING OUT SOON.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPACE PROGRAMS, NEGOTIATIONS, ROCKETS, TRACKING STATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO12535
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760318-0008
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197608103/baaaerhg.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <27 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr, REFER TO NASA>; RELEASED <23 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOJ SPACE ACTIVITIES
TAGS: TSPA, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006